



## **PROGRESS REPORT NO. 47**

**TO:** Helen Bottcher – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - via Email

**FROM:** Marko Adzic – Teck American Incorporated (Teck)

**DATE:** June 11, 2010

**FILE NO:** 1-773180-000

**RE:** Upper Columbia River (UCR) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study  
(RI/FS) - Progress Report No. 47 Month Ending May 2010

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Pursuant to Paragraph 39 of the June 2, 2006 Settlement Agreement (Agreement), the following is intended to provide a summary of the activities completed during the past month in compliance with the aforementioned Agreement. It is also intended to provide a brief summary of pending and on-going activities.

Laboratory analyses of beach sediment samples collected in April 2010 continue to be analyzed; with validated analytical data expected in late July. In the meantime, Teck will continue to work with the EPA to ensure that any modifications that may be required at other beaches identified within the 2009 Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), per earlier reconnaissance activities, are implemented, and approved by EPA prior to 2011 beach sediment sampling activities. It is anticipated that a draft revision to the beach sediment sampling program (i.e., Amendment No. 2) will be available early next month.

Surface water transect sampling activities associated with Round 3 have begun and are anticipated to continue through to approximately the 19<sup>th</sup> of June. As a result, validated data from all three surface water sampling events will be available in mid-September; with a data summary and data gap evaluation report to follow in November.

Fish tissue data continues to be validated. Validated data will be available no later than the 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month; followed by a data summary and data gap evaluation report in August 2010.

Efforts to implement white sturgeon sediment toxicity testing methods development work per the April 2010 QAPP continue at the University of Saskatchewan; with weekly updates being provided using on-line media tools such as GoToMeeting™. Both site-specific (i.e., the gravel bar at Deadman's Eddy) and potential reference sediments in Canada (i.e., Genelle and Birchbank) were collected and have been transported to the U of S for testing per the QAPP. Teck continues to work with EPA to ensure that methods

development work are completed in a timely manner prior to sediment toxicity tests using white sturgeon are initiated in July 2010 (i.e., Amendment No. 2).

Research permits to perform sediment sampling activities associated with the white sturgeon sediment toxicity tests have been attained. Teck will continue to work with the EPA to ensure that any and all cultural considerations associated with the aforementioned sediment sampling activities have been addressed so as to facilitate sediment sampling activities later this month.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 509-892-2585.